

CJPAC Research Workgroup Meeting

CSSD, 4th floor Conference Room
936 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield
November 12, 2008
10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Chair: Linda DeConti, Research Unit Manager (CJPPD/OPM)

Present: John Forbes, Assistant Division Director (OPM), Ivan Kuzyk, Research Unit Assistant Manager (OPM), Anne Bordieri, Intern (OPM); Brian Hill, Manager(CSSD, Susan Glass, Program Manager (CSSD); Judy Lee, Caseflow Management Specialist (Court Operations); Fred Levesque, Director (DOC), Cheryl Cepelak, Director (DOC), Michelle Altomare, Associate Research Analyst (DOC), Jody Barry, Associate Research Analyst (DOC), Pat Hynes, Director of Planning (DOC); Jerry Stowell, Consultant (BOPP), Rich Sparaco, Parole/Community Services Manager (BOPP); Lois Desmarais, Planning Specialist (DPS), Gary Lopez, Planning Specialist (DPS); Steve Cox, CT SAC Director (CCSU); Lyndsay Ruffolo, Research Specialist (CCSU); Aileen Keays, Research Specialist (CCSU).

Excused: Alan Calandro, Section Chief (OFA); Chris Reinhart, Esq., Senior Attorney (OLR); Al Bidorini, Director of Planning (DMHAS)

Absent: John Lahda, Executive Director (BOPP).

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS and DELIVERABLES	DATE
Acceptance of Minutes:	The Minutes from the October meeting were accepted as written.		
Monthly Indicators Report:	The October Monthly Indicators Report was distributed too all Forecast/Research Workgroup Members.	Brian was concerned with the graph of the daily prison population. The graph exaggerated the small amount of inmates that were changing daily. Ivan explained that the daily fluctuation was significant and that even a small number of inmates show the difference between days.	
Prison Forecasting Model:	John explained that Dr. Pablo Martinez from Texas State University was interested in coming to Connecticut to talk to the Forecast/Research Workgroup and discuss the Colorado Prison forecasting model that he has constructed. Dr. Martinez is interested in working with Connecticut to assist with evaluating a model for potential use. John briefly described how the Colorado prison forecasting model works and the basis of the model.		
Meeting Schedule:	December 10, 2008 – CSSD, 4 th Floor Conference Room, Wethersfield January 14, 2009?? -CVH Page Hall, Middletown		

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Annual Recidivism Study:	<p>Steve introduced the annual recidivism study and the differences that there would be from the 2001 and 2007 report. He stated the criticisms for each report.</p> <p>Ivan explained how he was conducting the 2008 recidivism report. He explained that data was being collected on other states and how they study recidivism. He explained that this study would focus on re-arrests, a new conviction and a new sentence. He has studied the inmates from 6 months after their release to three years.</p>	<p>There was a discrepancy between which crimes should be classified as violent or not violent.</p>	
Agency Updates:	<p>BOPP: The docket was comprised of new and backlog cases (backlog being defined as any offender who is past his/her statutory eligibility date or past the time frame where we normally would have heard the case).</p> <p>In October there were 26 regular hearing dates with an average of 10 cases per hearing. There were also 4 hearing dates held for parole revocation and parole rescissions. There were 286 parole grants and 44 denials. The 286 figure includes 60 cases that were revoked and re-paroled and 8 cases that were rescinded and re-paroled. There were 218 parole grants and 44 denials at the regular hearings for a total of 262. The grant rate was 83 percent.</p> <p>In addition there were 60 cases that were revoked and re-paroled and 8 cases that were rescinded and re-paroled. There were 135 cases reviewed for transfer parole (25 approved, 74 denied, 36 continued)</p>		
	<p>Judicial Court Operations: This month's update is similar to last month's as many of our projects are on-going. There are Public Acts from this past session that we are in the process of implementing. As always, the quality assurance initiative of our data is on the top of our agenda.</p>		
	<p>CSSD: The active probation population remains steady, through the number of unserved warrants has dropped from 6,500 in January 2008 to under 5,000. This is due to a combination of the implementation of PRAWN and the vacating of old warrants.</p> <p>Research and evaluation project in Adult and Juvenile Probation continue; outcome reports are due from the research vendors in mid-2009 and 2010.</p> <p>Through its first 5 ½ weeks, the Supervised Diversionary Program for persons with Psychiatric Disabilities (legislation passed in PA 08-01) has received 37 applications.</p>		

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	<p>DMHAS: DMHAS continues to work with analysts from the legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee as they study Connecticut's adult substance abuse treatment system. The study encompasses DMHAS, DOC and the Judicial Branch - Court Support Services Division. The first phase of the study focused on alcohol and illicit drug prevalence and treatment need, the nature of addiction as a chronic relapsing disorder, effective treatment approaches, research-based outcomes and overviews of the three agencies treatment delivery systems. A preliminary report was issued in early October.</p> <p>Phase two of the study focuses on service system and program level outcomes, based on the National Outcomes Measures and others (e.g., Washington Circle Public Sector measures of treatment initiation, engagement and retention), cost analysis of services aimed at efficiency and effectiveness of services and program standards as apply to credentialing, licensing and staff competencies. The final report will be issued in early December at which time each state agency will have an opportunity to review and provide an agency response.</p> <p>Work continues on interagency sharing of clinical information across criminal justice, child welfare, and addiction services. Both the CJ-PAC's Behavioral Health Subcommittee and the Alcohol and Drug Policy Council (ADPC) are actively engaged in finding solutions to facilitating improved and more efficient methods for sharing client clinic information. Review of Oklahoma's Qualified Service Agreement and Business Associate Agreement is underway as a possible model for Connecticut. Regarding release of information (ROI), the current plan is to focus on developing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), with approval from the Office of the Attorney General, which would specify acceptance of each agency's ROI base on standards that assured adherence to state and federal confidentiality regulations and law. Once executed, agency line staff will be trained regarding the MOA requirements. Lastly, DMHAS IT staff is investigating a secure network for e-mail distribution across state agencies and the Judicial Branch. Once in place, electronic files could be moved securely between state agencies. These efforts would be the first steps towards a statewide electronic health record system.</p>		
<p>Agency Updates Continued:</p>	<p>DPS: The 2005 Crime in Connecticut (CIC) annual report should be published soon. Nine employees at DPS have begun entering the CSP missing arrests (approximately 15,000 for 2006, 2007 and 2008 combined). Most of the employees enter the data only a few hours per week. With the data entry, the 2006 CIC report should be published by January 2009. Please note that the arrests are in the CSP records management system; they are just not entered in NIBRS.</p> <p>Once the CSP missing arrests are entered, future CIC publications will not be delayed for towns that have not submitted 12 months of data. If there are one or more towns with incomplete data, the annual report will be published without statewide totals, indicating which towns are missing. Once all towns submit their data, statewide totals will be provided in an updated version of the CIC report. Crimes Analysis decided against estimating statewide totals after it was determined that nearly all states that publish an annual report do not publish estimates.</p>		
	<p>DOC: The Statewide Re-entry Strategy with Commissioner Lantz was sent for her review and is planned to be presented to PJOC on November 18th. The timeline calls for this report to go to CJPAC at their December meeting and to the Legislature Feb. 15th 2008.</p> <p>The DOC experienced a small change in numbers this past month. The sentenced population increase slightly by approx. 100 and the unsentenced population decreased by 250. There was no significant change in the community release numbers. The DOC has expanded the Technical Violators unit at CRCI to include Parole offenders who will be offered a 60 day relapse prevention program. With the overall population slightly down, the agency hopes to reduce or close some overflow units in the Correctional Centers.</p>		